

# Florida Citrus At a Cross Road

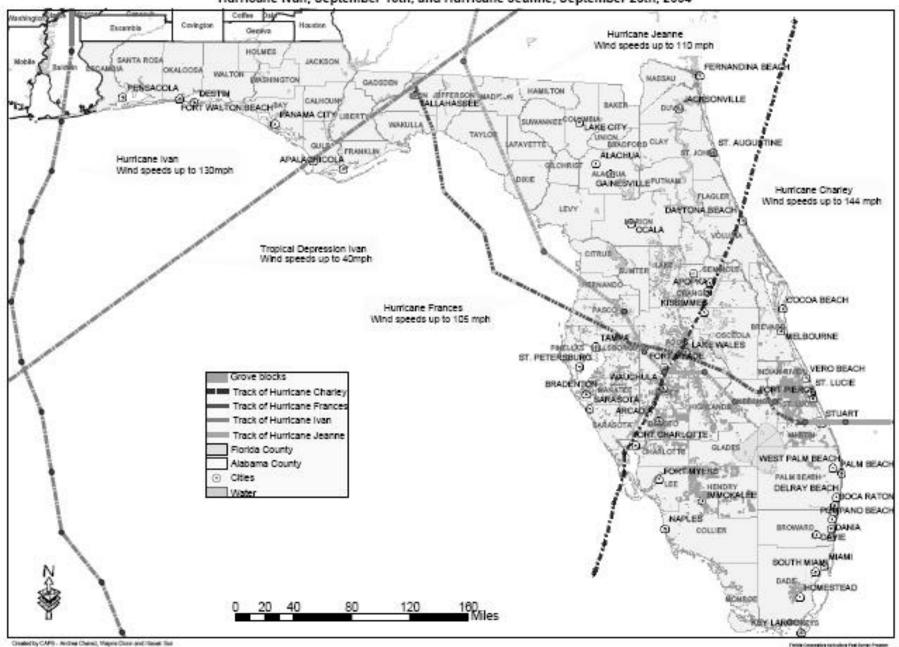
Debbie Pumphrey and Sonia Jimenez March 8, 2006



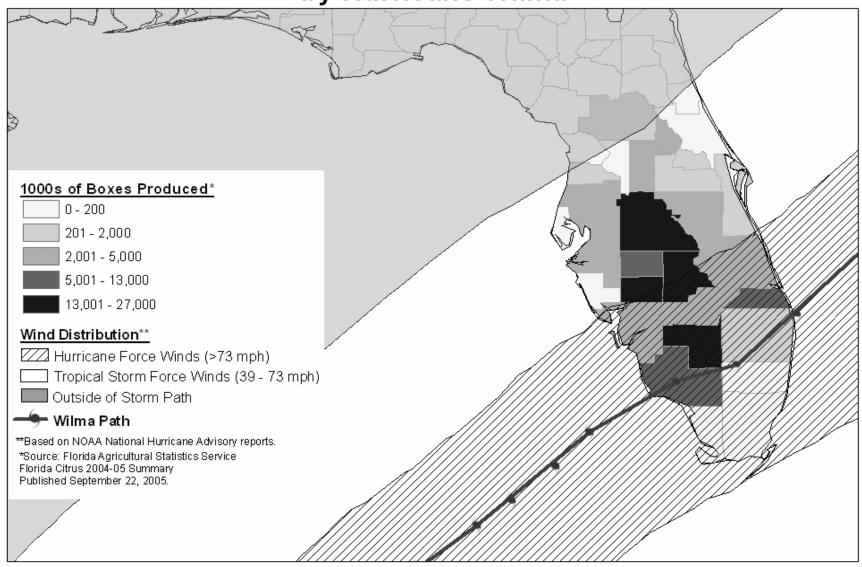
## **Issues Affecting Florida Citrus**

- Hurricanes
- Citrus Canker
- Citrus Greening
- Competition for the land (housing)
- Labor shortages
- Pests brought in by unsuspecting people returning home

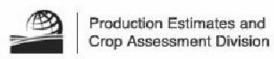
#### Path of Hurricane Charley, August 13th, 2004, Hurricane Frances, September 5th, 2004, Hurricane Ivan, September 15th, and Hurricane Jeanne, September 26th, 2004



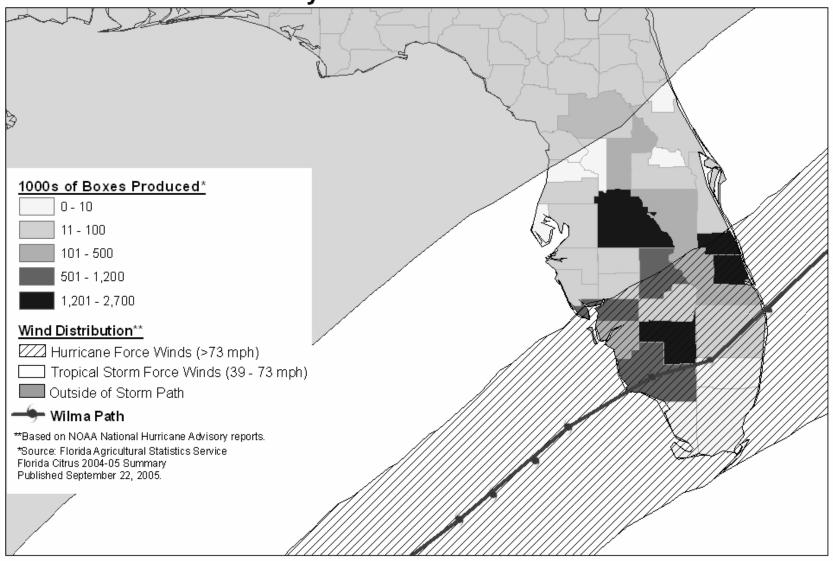
# Orange Production in Counties Affected by Hurricane Wilma



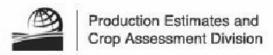




# Grapefruit Production in Counties Affected by Hurricane Wilma









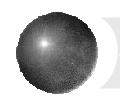
#### What is canker?





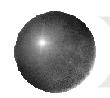
#### **Endemic Canker - Situation**

- 64,000 acres destroyed
- Spread to 24 counties
- Eradication Program halted in January
- New draft program announced March 7
- California and Texas industries very concerned



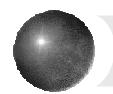
#### **Keeping Canker Under Control**

- Disease management involves:
  - resistant varieties
  - windbreaks to hinder inoculum dispersal
  - timely application of coppercontaining bactericides
  - controlling the leaf miner

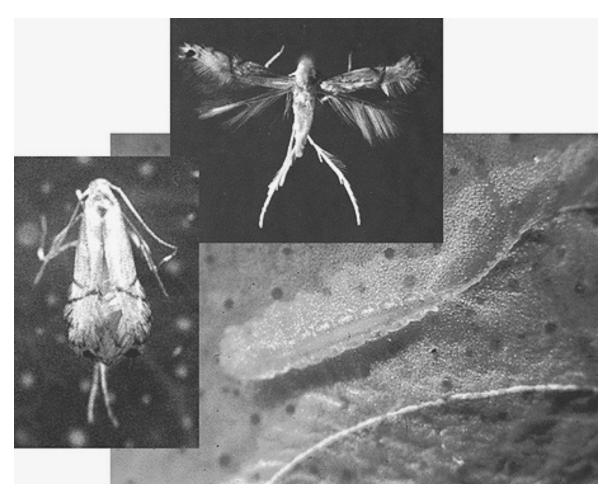


#### **Nurseries Hit**

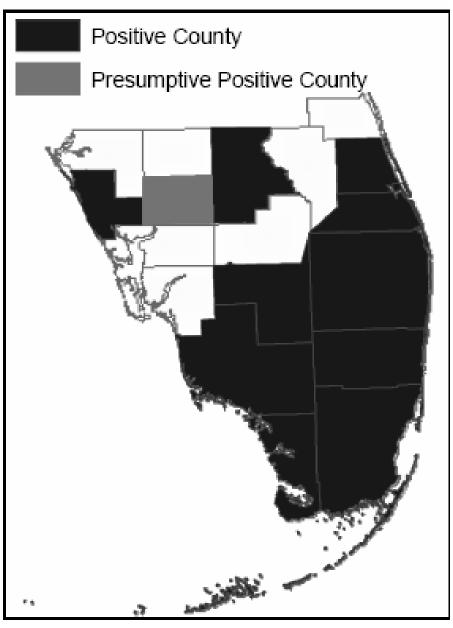
- Around 65 percent of inventory destroyed or about 5.4 million trees
- New program will likely require nurseries to operate indoors
- Move away from canker-infected area
- 2-3 years for new inventory--shortage



# **Citrus Greening**







There are now 10 counties positive for citrus greening

## **Managing Citrus Greening**

- disease-free budwood
- nurseries under screen and away from infected groves
- insecticides to keep trees free of the psyllid
- treatment at strategic times to prevent psyllid infestation
- use of parasitic controls

# Citrus Health Response Plan (CHRP) Goals

- Establish science-based standards to prevent or reduce the spread of citrus canker, greening, & other pests/ diseases
- Produce asymptomatic fruit in the presence of the diseases
- Ensure domestic & foreign markets are maintained



### Citrus Health Response Plan (CHRP)

- Citrus Nurseries
- Growing Practices
- Harvesting
- Transportation
- Management of picked fruit and residential and ornamental citrus



#### **Conclusion**

- The continued support of USDA is crucial to assure that Florida citrus maintains overseas markets while dealing with these diseases.
- Maintaining the overseas markets would decide the future of the Florida citrus industry.